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TENDRING
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of

The Medical Officer of Health

for 1947

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Colchester :
Essex County Telegraph
1948

Tendring Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for 1947

Chairman : Mr. H. R. CARTER

Vice-Chairman : Mr. W. H. SEXTON

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Vice-Chairman : Mrs. M. C. WRIGHT

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Mr. A. L. HOWSE

BRIGHTLINGSEA AND TENDRING SHELLFISH COMMITTEE

Mr. Q. R. CLARKE, Mr. L. G. NEWMAN

and Mr. P. B. SMITH

Council Offices,

Weeley,

Clacton-on-Sea,

September, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the Tendring Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1947.

The Vital Statistics are based upon the Registrar General's estimated population for 1947 of 22,950.

Whilst the local death and birth rates are practically identical with the corresponding national figures, the maternal mortality for the third year in succession is nil and the infantile death rate only 33·47.

With the exception of Scarlet Fever, the infectious disease rate is low and no cases of diphtheria occurred during the year. The rapid fall in both the number of cases and deaths from this disease shows the benefits of the Anti-diphtheria inoculations, which have now become a routine prophylactic measure.

The housing problem is recognised as the most urgent question before local authorities. I would suggest that, taking a long view, an equally urgent matter for this exceptionally dry area is the available water supply.

It gives me great pleasure to express my thanks for the help and co-operation of the various officers of the Council, and especially to the Senior Sanitary Inspector and Public Health Staff.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. RAMSBOTTOM.

Section A

Statistics and Social Conditions in the Area

STATISTICS

Area	66,931 Acres
R. G. Estimate of resident population for 1947 ..	22,950
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1947) according to rate books	8,296
Rateable Value	£103,437
Sum represented by a penny rate	£404

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate	233	217	450
—Illegitimate	16	12	28
Total	249	229	478
Birth Rate per thousand population .. .. .	..	..	20·83

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	10	5	15
Illegitimate	2	—	2
Total	12	5	17
Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births .. .. .	..	..	34·3

DEATHS

	120	163	283
Death Rate per 1,000 of population			12·33

DEATHS FROM DISEASES AND ACCIDENTS OF PREGNANCY AND CHILD BIRTH

Cause.	Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 live and still births
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal Causes	Nil	Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

	Male	Female	Total
Actual Number of Deaths—Legitimate	6	10	16
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	6	10	16
Total Infantile death rate per 1,000 births .. .. .	..	..	33·47
Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births			35·55
Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births			Nil

DEATHS FROM MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH AND DIARRHOEA (Under 1 Year)

Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .. .. .	..	..	1
Measles .. .. .	..	..	Nil

DEATHS FROM CANCER, TUBERCULOSIS, AND INFLUENZA

Disease						Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 population
Tuberculosis	{	Pulmonary ..	5	{	..	7	.30
		Non-Pulmonary..	2				
Cancer ..	..	..	..	..	..	35	1.52
Influenza ..	..	..	..	..	..	2	.08
Heart Disease ..	..	..	..	..	..	82	3.57

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1946

Under 1 Year	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55
9	—	—	4	3	6	5	16
	55-65	65-75	75 & Over				
	34	62	137			Total 283	

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1947

Disease.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	1	4	5
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ..	0	2	2
Syphilis ..	2	0	2
Influenza ..	1	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	0	1	1
Cancer ..	12	23	35
Diabetes ..	1	3	4
Intracranial Vascular Lesions ..	17	25	42
Heart Disease ..	30	52	82
Other Circulatory Diseases ..	6	7	13
Bronchitis ..	9	5	14
Pneumonia ..	1	4	5
Other Respiratory Diseases ..	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ..	2	1	3
Diarrhoea under Two Years ..	0	1	1
Appendicitis ..	1	1	2
Other Digestive Diseases ..	3	2	5
Nephritis ..	6	3	9
Premature Birth ..	1	1	2
Con. Malformation, etc. ..	4	6	10
Suicide ..	1	0	1
Road Traffic Accidents ..	1	0	1
Other Violent Deaths ..	3	0	3
All Other Causes ..	17	20	37
	120	163	283

There were 27 more deaths than 1946. The numbers follow closely those of last year in all age groups under 75. In the age group 75 and over, however, there was an increase of 29.

The main causes of death have again been Heart Disease (82), Intracranial Vascular Lesions (42), and Cancer (35). The total of 159 deaths from these causes, which are the diseases of later life, is 18 in excess of last year.

INFANTILE DEATHS

The following table shows the cause of, and the ages at death, of the 15 infantile deaths registered :—

			1		1		1		Total		
			Under day		week		1				
			1	to 1	to 1	to 2	2-6	6-12			
			day	week	moth.	moth.					
Cause of Death.											
Injury at Birth	..	..	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Prematurity	..	..	..	—	2	—	—	—	2
Congenital Debility and											
Defective Vitality at Birth			3	1	—	—	—	—	4		
Congenital Heart Disease	..		—	—	1	—	—	—	1		
Congenital Malformation	..		2	—	1	—	—	—	3		
Atelectasis	..	..	..	1	—	—	—	—	1
Gastro-Enteritis	..	..	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Bronchitis	..	..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia	..	..	..	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total			6	5	3	1	1	0	16

Infantile Mortality is practically the same as last year, and when the causes of infant deaths are examined the difficulty of reducing this figure to any material extent will be realised. Care of prematurely born infants and pre-natal care appear to offer the best prospects.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

			TENDRING ENGLAND and WALES	
			R.D.	as a Whole
Birth Rate	..	..	20·8	20·5
Death Rate	..	..	12·3	12·0
Infant Mortality	..		33·47	37·0
Maternal Mortality	..		Nil	1·17
Chief Infectious Diseases			—	—
Notifications	per	1,000		
Population	..	..	—	—
Scarlet Fever	..	..	2·0	1·37
Diphtheria	..	..	Nil	·13
Puerperal Fever and				
Pyrexia	..	..	·04	·15

Both the birth and death rate coincide closely with the national rates. The outstanding features are the absence of maternal deaths for the third year in succession and the low Puerperal Fever rate, also the absence of Diphtheria.

VITAL STATISTICS SINCE 1939 IN TENDRING R.D.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Birth Rate	.. 14·54	14·65	14·50	16·36	16·67	20·22	17·32	19·9	20·83
Death Rate	.. 12·46	14·39	13·65	12·56	14·08	12·6	13·4	11·53	12·33
Infantile Mortality	24·16	45·18	55·30	47·06	35·20	28·9	27·8	33·93	33·47
Death Rate from									
Tuberculosis	.. ·21	·31	·49	·57	·39	·36	·38	·22	·30
Death Rate from									
Cancer	.. 2·15	1·66	1·83	1·39	2·25	1·51	2·5	1·44	1·52
Maternal Deaths	.. 2	2	Nil	1	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

Section B

General Provision of Health Services

Medical Officer of Health.—J. Ramsbottom, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., who is also Medical Officer of Health for Brightlingsea and Assistant County Medical Officer for the same area.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.—G. W. Yearsley, M.R.San.I.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector.—A. E. Lockwood, C.R.San.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.—G. F. Lambert, Cert. S.I.B. (9-10-47).

Clerk to the M.O.H.—Miss L. M. Girling.

Clerk to the Sanitary Inspector.—Mr. R. G. Debnam.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological work is now carried out at the Pathological Laboratory, Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

Water and Ice Cream Samples examined at the Counties Public Health Laboratory, Victoria Park, London, S.W.1.

Examination of Milk is dealt with at the Essex Institute of Agriculture, Writtle, near Chelmsford.

Midwives and Nursing Homes. No change to the previous years 1940-1945.

NURSING IN THE HOME. The home nursing in the area is provided by 12 local District Nursing Associations, each of which provide one or more district nurse midwives for a Parish or group of Parishes, the result is no Parish is without a District Nurse Midwife of which 13 are working in the area. The various local Associations are affiliated with the County District Nursing Association. The latter is not subsidised by the Tendring Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

(a) **Infectious Diseases.** All infectious disease cases requiring removal are conveyed to Hospital in the Colchester Borough Isolation Hospital Ambulance.

(b) **Non-Infectious Diseases.** The Tendring Rural District Council is one of the contracting parties with other local Authorities in a combined Ambulance Service operating in the North Eastern portion of the County. The scheme works efficiently. In the Manningtree area St. John's Association also provides an Ambulance outside the local scheme, the officer in charge being Mr. W. H. Moore, 13, High Street, Manningtree.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

All Clinics in this area are under the control of the County Authority.

The only change during 1947 is the opening of Child Welfare Clinics in the villages of Ardleigh and Great Bentley.

Below is given a list of County Clinics held in this district.

Maternity and Child Welfare

Combined County Clinic, Weeley.—First and Third Fridays, 2-4 p.m.

Manningtree Parish Room, Stour Street.—Second Tuesday, 2.30-4.30 p.m.; fourth Tuesday, 2.30-4.30 p.m. (immunisation clinic only).

Parkeston Wesleyan School, Garland Road.—Third Tuesday, 2.30-4.30 p.m.

Frating Village Hall, Colchester Road.—First Friday, 2.30-4.30 p.m.

Wix, the Chapel Room, Main Road.—Second Monday, 2.30-4.30 p.m.

St. Osyth, The Institute.—Second Tuesday, 2.30-4.30 p.m.

Ardleigh, Wesleyan School Room, Colchester Road.—Second Tuesday, 2.30-4.30 p.m.

Thorpe, Women's Institute, Main Road.—First and Third Fridays, 10-12 p.m.

Great Bentley Senior School.—Fourth Tuesday, 2.30-4.30 p.m.

Diphtheria immunisations are carried out at all the above Clinics.

Minor Ailments Clinics

School children attend at the conclusion of the Child Welfare Clinic at Weeley, Parkeston, and Manningtree.

Ante-Natal Clinic

Combined Clinic, Weeley.

Special Clinics

Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic, and Child Guidance Clinics to which children residing in the Rural District Area can attend, are held at Colchester, Clacton-on-Sea, and Harwich.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic

Combined Clinic, Weeley.—First Monday, 2-4 p.m.

Dental Clinic

Combined Clinic, Weeley.—When necessary.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

(Including the Report of the Sanitary Inspector)

WATER

At the present time seventeen of the twenty-four parishes of the Tendring Rural District have a piped water supply either directly from the mains of the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company or in the case of St. Osyth and Great Bentley indirectly through the Clacton mains. In the former parish there is a local scheme by which the water is taken in bulk from Clacton and distributed. In Great Bentley, however, the supply is obtained from three stand pipes only, which tap the Clacton rising main, consequently this village is for all practical purposes without a piped supply.

The Western Area Water Scheme, which is expected to be in operation in 1948, provides a piped supply for Alresford, Ardleigh (part of), Elmstead, Frating, Great Bentley, and Thorington, thereby the whole of the parishes of the Rural District will have a piped supply.

The water of the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company is very hard, but is satisfactory as regards its chemical and bacteriological purity.

The rainfall in this part of the country is exceptionally low, the average annual rainfall over the last 25 years is only 19.19 inches. The absence of any rivers or lakes leaves only the natural underground reservoirs as a source of public water supply. The Company tap this source at Manningtree, and now Dedham, and it is from their deep wells that the whole of the Tendring Peninsula east of Colchester is supplied. This underground water, which appears to be abundant in quantity, flows from west to east. These underground supplies are not inexhaustible, and if the rate of withdrawal exceeds the rate of the fresh water flow in an eastern direction, then owing to the proximity of the North Sea to the deep wells the deficiency of fresh water may be made good by western currents from the Sea. This would increase the salinity of the water in the wells, and could even render it unusable.

With the increased demands for water in the peninsula owing to coastal development, the extension and increasing use of main supplies, this danger is not to be ignored.

The practical precautions which could be taken are both local and general. Full advantage might be made of rain water, and if adequate storage of soft water for household use were more general it would to a considerable extent relieve the drain on the deep wells. Apart from the wells supplying those dwellings, which will unavoidably be unable to take advantage of the mains, there are good superficial wells in the villages which give a reasonably wholesome supply of drinking water. The retention of these wells would serve also as a reserve in case of emergency.

The measures of a general character are really a national question. The problem is one of conservation of the water over the whole collecting area by preservation of woodlands, retention of sufficient grassland, and the slowing up of the outward flow of surface water to the larger streams and ultimately the sea.

Apart from the danger of water shortage the neglect of such measures may further have a very deleterious effect on the arable grain growing land of the Eastern Counties.

RIVERS AND STREAMS POLLUTION

No action necessary.

SCAVENGING AND SALVAGE

Scavenging is carried out over the whole of the district by direct labour and salvage is run in conjunction with it. For details see Sanitary Inspector's Report.

The Council have decided to adopt a scheme for the emptying of cesspools which it is hoped will be in operation early next year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

There were two short sewer extensions only during 1947 in Long Road, Mistley.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Zaldecide has been found satisfactory in dealing with these pests. The number treated during the year was :

Houses found Infested.		Houses Disinfested.	
Council Homes	.. .. 2	Council Homes	.. .. 2
Other Homes	.. .. 4	Other Homes	.. .. 4

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1947

1. **COMPLAINTS** received and to which attention was given—220.

2. **ERADICATION OF VERMIN**

Six houses were treated for bugs and two for fleas. In each instance Zaldecide was used.

3. **FUMIGATION AFTER INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

Seventeen houses were fumigated after removal or recovery of patients. Twenty-three schools were also fumigated.

4. **NEW DRAINAGE TO EXISTING BUILDINGS**

New drains have been laid at eighteen premises ; thirteen connected to main sewers, one drain extension, three involved drainage and sewage disposal plants, and one cesspool drainage.

5. **PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE**

The whole of the district (approximately 7,000 houses) is covered for refuse and salvage collection, with the comparatively minor exceptions of properties which are very isolated or on unmade roads which are not reasonably accessible.

Two new side loading vehicles were obtained in April, when it became possible to organise more frequent collections than hitherto, with four vehicles and one auxiliary vehicle in case of breakdowns. Nine men are engaged on refuse and salvage work.

The collection periods are as follows :—

Weekly—Manningtree, Mistley, Lawford, and Parkeston (part of Ramsey).

Fortnightly—Thorpe-le-Soken, Little Clacton, Weeley, St. Osyth, Great Bentley, Ramsey (village), Little Oakley, Great Oakley, Wrabness, Bradfield, Wix, Thorington, Frating, and Great Bromley.

Monthly—Ardleigh, Elmstead, Lawford (Settlements), Beaumont, Thorpe-le-Soken (outlying parts), Tendring, Little Bromley, and Little Bentley.

With the exception of Parkeston the whole of the collections during 1947 have been by direct labour. Parkeston (approximately 440 houses) has been dealt with by a contractor, but will be dealt with by direct labour commencing January 1st, 1948.

Salvage collected and sold during the year :—

	Tons.	Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed Waste Paper ..	86	19	1	8	541	13	11
Books and Magazines ..	11	4	1	4	123	17	7
Ferrous Metals ..	22	17	0	23	57	7	4
Non-Ferrous Metals ..	—	10	0	17	14	17	10
Textiles	3	11	1	22	51	18	3
Rubber	—	—	—	27		2	4
Bones	2	17	2	7	17	3	10
Jars and Bottles ..	2	9	1	5	51	7	1
Miscellaneous ..	—	—	1	6			9
Total	130	10	3	11	£858	8	11

6. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following table gives details of the inspections carried out and notices served during the year :—

Nature of Inspection	Total Inspections	Notices Served	
		Informal	Formal
Houses : Unfit	183	24	18
„ Unfit (Revisits) ..	323	—	—
„ Defects	435	78	3
„ Defects (Revisits) ..	191	—	—
„ Drainage	231	20	—
„ Drainage (Revisits) ..	13	—	—
„ Sanitary Accommodation	27	9	—
„ Overcrowding	7	—	—
„ Dirty	5	1	—
„ Verminous	17	—	—
„ Satisfactory	34	—	—
Water Supplies	328	8	1
Water Samples Collected ..	27	—	—
Schools	38	1	—
Dairy Farms	80	2	—
Dairy Farms (Revisits) ..	21	—	—
Milk Samples Taken	25	4	—
Food Premises	84	—	—
Bakehouses	9	3	—
Factories	2	1	—
Shops	49	—	—
Ice Cream Premises	6	—	—
Ice Cream Samples Collected ..	3	—	—
Food Poisoning Enquiries ..	4	—	—
Caravans and Sites	42	—	—
Infectious Disease Enquiries ..	25	—	—
Refuse Tips and Deposits ..	73	8	—
Rat Infestations	159	—	—
Polluted Rivers and Ditches ..	26	—	—
Dustbins	—	5	—
Piggeries	3	—	—
Mosquito Control	11	—	—
Knackers' Yards	1	—	—
Miscellaneous	82	5	—
Totals	2564	169	22

The staff in the department throughout the year until October was less than during the previous year by reason of the resignation of the Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector and the Shorthand-Typist. Mr. F. G. Lambert was appointed as additional Sanitary Inspector in October, but the Shorthand-Typist has not been replaced.

7. FOOD INSPECTION

Food surrendered voluntarily :—

	lbs.
Tinned Fish	135½
Tinned Meat	118½
Tinned Milk	320
Tinned Jam	32
Tinned Meat and Vegetables	37
Tinned Carrots	27½
Tinned Beans	202
Tinned Peas	105½
Tinned Fruit	127½
Dried Fruit	4
Potatoes	280
Fresh Meat	1229
Cheese	6
Pickles	1287
Soup	32½
Miscellaneous	18½
	<hr/>
	3962½
	<hr/>

8. ICE-CREAM VENDORS

Seven persons were registered during the year under the Essex County Council Act, 1933, to sell ice-cream. The total number of registered vendors in the District is twenty-seven.

9. HOUSING

Houses inspected and recorded in detail	1267
Demolition Orders made	18
Houses demolished after formal action.. .. .	5
Houses demolished after informal action	—
Houses reconditioned after formal action	2
Houses reconditioned after informal action	—
Houses repaired after formal action	4
Houses repaired after informal action	87

10. CARAVANS AND SITES

There are two licensed camping sites near the St. Osyth Beach, and in addition eight movable dwelling licences have been issued during the year.

Section D.

Housing

During 1947, 40 houses were erected by private enterprise and 122 by the Council; of the latter 60 were temporary.

Housing complaints have been dealt with as they arose.

There were 18 demolition orders made and 5 houses were demolished during the year.

In spite of the erection of 162 houses during 1947 there is no apparent improvement in the housing position. Since at the end of the year the number of applications for houses showed an increase of 18 over 1946.

In my previous report attention was drawn to the vital necessity of keeping all the existing houses as far as possible in a static condition.

It is very unlikely that the Council house will ever represent the average standard of housing, but will rather become the model house of the higher-paid workers, whilst the standard of housing for the remainder of the population will be on a falling scale, the houses fit only for demolition being at the bottom.

So long as the demand for houses exceeds the supply the standard and condition of housing must deteriorate, and it will not be until the position is reversed and the demand falls short of the actual supply that improvement in the housing conditions can occur. When this position is reached those houses unfit for habitation will naturally fall out of use, in some cases assisted by demolition orders.

For the particulars of house inspections carried out, see the Sanitary Inspector's Report (Section C).

Section E.

Inspection of Food

MILK PRODUCTION

The Register shows there are 90 Producer Wholesalers, 28 Producer Retailers, and 16 Retailers only in the District.

MEAT

Slaughtering is not carried out in this district except in case of emergency. For particulars of meat and other foods condemned, see the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SHELLFISH (Mulluxan)

During 1947, 1,294,900 Oysters were passed through the Purification Tanks at Brightlingsea.

The numbers for the previous years were:—

1946	..	..	..	..	..	2,325,364
1945	..	..	..	..	..	1,665,347
1944	..	..	..	..	..	943,082
1943	..	..	..	..	..	940,658
1942	..	..	..	..	..	809,600
1941	..	..	..	..	..	2,055,714
1940	..	..	..	..	..	2,021,293
1939	..	..	..	..	..	3,407,062
1938	..	..	..	..	..	4,361,107

“ Briten ” Purified Oysters

The beds from which the “ Briten ” oysters are taken are situated in both the Tendring Rural District and Brightlingsea Urban District. These oysters are passed through purification tanks which were opened in May, 1934, and are under the control of the joint Brightlingsea and Tendring Shellfish Committee. These tanks were the first of their kind to be operated in this country; the purification process has now stood the test of 14 years successfully.

The process of oyster purification is based upon the normal physiological digestive process of the oyster which is used to thoroughly flush the alimentary canal of the shellfish and is, therefore, a natural self-cleansing action.

The oyster beds at Brightlingsea are mainly used as fattening grounds for foreign oysters, the brood oysters being laid in the waters of the Creek until of market size. The following is a brief summary of the purification process:—

- (a) All oysters from the beds are taken direct to the purification tanks and distributed evenly on wooden grids raised six inches above the floor of the concrete tank.
- (b) These are subjected to high pressure hosing in order to remove any mud or debris adhering to the shells.
- (c) The shellfish are afterwards covered by sterile sea water for 24 hours at a temperature not below 54 degrees Fahr. It is

estimated that 10 gallons of sterile water pass through the alimentary canal of the oyster every 24 hours and thoroughly flushes it.

All faeces with the included bacteria which are discharged from the alimentary canal of the shellfish sink to the bottom of the tank.

- (d) The tank is next drained, and this is followed by a second high pressure hosing. Afterwards the floor is flushed with sterile water.
- (e) The shellfish are again subjected to a second similar bath, which completes the cleansing process.
- (f) The draining and flushing of the tank is repeated.
- (g) The oysters are then subjected to a bath of chlorine water, two parts per million. The effect of this procedure is to cause the oysters to immediately close their shells and cease functioning; at the same time it completely sterilises the outer surfaces of the shells. This immersion continues for one hour only.
- (h) The chlorine bath is drained off and the oysters are packed in sterile bags which are sealed with the trade name, "Britten," and passed to the market.

The actual process of cleansing takes place in the first two baths, and is purely a physiological process of flushing with sterile water which contains no chlorine or other disinfectants.

The whole process is controlled by bacteriological tests and has shown excellent and consistent results.

There appears to be no doubt that an oyster that has passed through this system of purification is the safest possible shellfish for human consumption.

Section F.

Prevalence of and Control Over Infectious Diseases.

During 1947, 385 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified.

Disease.	Total Cases.	Hospital.	Deaths.
Erysipelas.. ..	5	1	—
Jaundice	17	—	—
Measles	265	—	—
Pneumonia	11	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—
Scarlet Fever	24	14	—
Whooping Cough.. ..	57	—	—
Chicken Pox	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	4	4	1
	385	20	2

MEASLES

This disease was very prevalent. The epidemic commenced in February, and reached its peak in June. There was a secondary rise in November, after which the disease gradually subsided.

The disease, although widespread, was mild, and no death occurred.

SCARLET FEVER

Twenty-four cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year ; these were spread over 14 parishes as under :—

Ardleigh 3, Alresford 2, Bradfield 1, Frating 1, Great Bentley 1, Lawford 1, Little Oakley 1, Mistley 1, Parkeston 8, Ramsey 1, St. Osyth 1, Thorpe 1, Thorington 1, Wrabness 1.

With the exception of Parkeston, Ardleigh, and Alresford, the cases were sporadic, and no connection between the various isolated cases could be traced. The disease was very mild in character.

POLIOMYELITIS

Although the attention of the public was drawn to this disease owing to its prevalence throughout the County, yet only four cases occurred in the Rural District. One terminated fatally ; the remaining three made practically complete recoveries.

DIPHTHERIA

No cases of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation

At the end of 1947, 780 children under five were immunised, giving a percentage for this age period of 41·3, whilst the percentage for children between five and fifteen years is 73·4.

TUBERCULOSIS

During 1947 there were 29 new cases notified as compared with 25 in 1946. Seventeen of these were Pulmonary and twelve Non-Pulmonary.

There were five deaths from Pulmonary and two from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, as compared with five Pulmonary deaths last year. Particulars of ages and sex are given below :—

Notifications					
		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
Ages.		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0— 1	..	—	—	—	—
1— 5	..	—	—	1	3
5—10	..	—	—	—	—
10—15	..	—	—	—	2
15—20	..	—	—	1	1
20—25	..	3	1	—	—
25—35	..	2	2	1	1
35—45	..	1	5	—	—
45—55	..	2	—	—	1
55—65	..	—	1	—	—
65—over	..	—	—	—	1
		8	9	3	9

Deaths					
		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
15—20	..	—	—	—	1
20—25	..	—	1	—	—
25—35	..	—	2	—	—
45—55	..	1	—	—	—
55—65	..	—	1	—	1
		1	4	—	2